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American Embassy
Paris
June 23, 1953

Dear Jim:

You will already have been informed by the Germans as to what transpired at the Foreign Ministers meeting here yesterday. It was inconclusive in most respects but I should imagine that it was wise to have determined upon Baden Baden as the place for the EPC Conference.

Since the afternoon session telescoped into a dinner offered by Bidault, I lost the opportunity to carry out the arrangement for a talk with de Gasperi. I am tentatively planning, therefore, to go down to Rome next week and try to ascertain what the situation there is regarding European integration.

Blankenhorn came to see me yesterday morning to deliver some Moselle wine which Hallstein had sent me. In the course of his conversation he said that the Chancellor had definitely decided from a German domestic political standpoint that if a four-power conference should take place it should not commence before the German elections. I was interested in this in connection with our conversation together in Paris.

I now come to the real point of this letter, which is to say that a meeting in Luxembourg on July 16 would be admirable from my standpoint. I do not like to inflict it on you and the others but, if it is agreeable to you, I should like to have a lunch on that day and invite the members of the High Authority and the members of the Court to meet you. It would not take up very much time (especially since the facilities for entertainment in Luxembourg are limited) but it would be gratifying to the Coal and Steel Community people and also would give an excellent pretext for all of us being congregated there.

Will you let me know if this is satisfactory and also when the meeting has finally been arranged perhaps you would like me to make reservations for anyone who is going to stay there overnight.

With kind regards,

Very sincerely yours,

David Bruce

The Honorable
James B. Conant,
U. S. High Commissioner,
Bonn, Germany.

Conant, James B.

DB:GES

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